

lists two countries "where democracy has lost ground: Venezuela and arguably, Colombia. . . ."<sup>8</sup>

Mainwaring adds that despite often dismal economic performance and continued presidentialism, a number of Latin American countries with elected governments have survived.

#### CHALLENGES TO DEMOCRACY IN LATIN AMERICA

What then are the challenges to effective democracy in Latin America, democracy that goes beyond the characteristic, essential but not sufficient, of "elected government"?

I can do no better in listing these challenges than by referring to the testimony, on June 16, 1999, before the Committee on International Relations of the United States House of Representatives, of the Senior Program Officer for Latin America and the Caribbean of the National Endowment for Democracy, Christopher Sabatini.

All the areas cited by Dr. Sabatini are ones to which the United States, other countries, international organizations and, I am asserting, especially Spain, can make a significant, and positive, contribution:

Strengthening the rule of law and enhancing citizen access to the judicial system. The administration of justice is weak in most countries of Latin America.

Fighting corruption. This means finding ways in which civil society can press elected officials for public access to information and can work to increase the transparency and effectiveness of election and campaign finance laws.

Building democratic political parties. Establishing viable and representative political parties is essential to democratic participation, governance and stability in Latin America.

Battling crime. The democratic solution to rising crime requires improving the criminal justice system, bolstering the police and involving civil society groups both to combat crime and check state encroachment on civil liberties.

Improving civil-military relations. Both civilians and military leaders need to understand their respective responsibilities. The armed forces should be educated on their roles and duties in a democracy.

Defending freedom of the press. Liberty of expression is fundamental to a transparent, democratic system but such freedom is under attack in Latin America. Each country must develop a national network to defend a freedom indispensable to genuine democracy.

Pressing economic growth and reducing inequality of incomes. The wide gap between rich and poor in Latin America is a continuing threat to democratic development there.

Modernizing local governments. Decentralization of resources and responsibilities can better serve citizens but only if accompanied by measures to ensure local levels of accountability.

I add, by way of generalization, that it seems to me imperative, if democratic institutions are to take root and flourish in Latin America, legislative bodies and judicial systems must, like the media, be independent of control by the executive branch of government.

#### ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES IN STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY

In all these respects, I take the further liberty of suggesting, I believe there are potential

contributions to the development of democracy to be made by universities. Institutions of higher learning can play a valuable role in strengthening democracy. As two respected scholars, Jorge Balán of the Ford Foundation and Daniel C. Levy of the State University of New York at Albany, have insisted, in shaping an agenda for research on higher education policy in Latin America, it is not enough to focus on modernization. Although, they argue, political economics, public policy-making, management and leadership are all legitimate subjects for university courses, they do not suffice. Universities must also look to the study of democracy, of civil society, freedom, of transitions from authoritarianism, of the consolidation of democratic regimes.

#### WORDS OF KING JUAN CARLOS I

Allow me to conclude these remarks with words spoken at my university just sixteen years ago by a distinguished foreign visitor. Upon receiving the degree of doctor of laws, *honoris causa*, our guest spoke of the new challenges posed by society and of the role of what he called the "humanistic vocation" in meeting those challenges. Said our eminent honoree: "For all of us, professors, students, citizens and rulers, the adaptation of . . . structures to a world in which universal values of freedom, equality and justice prevail, must be a task of high priority. It is a mission that justifies any sacrifice, and must inspire our will and our imagination."

The speaker at New York University was, of course, His Majesty, King Juan Carlos I, and his words in December 1983 eloquently invoke the spirit that draws us together today.

I congratulate all of you on your historic achievement in creating the "Comisión Española de Apoyo a la Democracia" and wish you well.

#### FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> "Latin America's Imperiled Progress," *Journal of Democracy*, vol. 10, no. 3, July 1999, p. 33.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> "The Surprising Resilience of Elected Governments," *Journal of Democracy*, vol. 10, no. 3, July 1999, p. 101.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 103.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 106.

#### RECOGNIZING SHIRLEY LOCKE

#### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 3, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to thank Vandalia resident Shirley Locke who has selflessly volunteered at the Fayette County Hospital's long-term care unit for the last 23 years. As a volunteer, 64-year-old Shirley Locke works seven days a week for five to nine hours a day calling bingo, serving coffee, and going on outings with the patients. "She's here more often than any other volunteer", Shelly Rosenkoetter, activities director for long-term care, said. "We don't know what we'd do without her."

Shirley wouldn't trade her volunteer work for anything. "I just wanted something to do," she said. "It's like a second home to me. I'm going

to do it as long as I can." I think it is great to see people like Shirley who are willing to volunteer long hours to lend a hand to the people of her community.

IN HONOR OF OFFICER JOAN HONEBEIN AND HER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF UNION CITY, CA

#### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 3, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and congratulate Patrol Officer Joan Honebein on her retirement from twenty-five years of service to the residents of the 13th Congressional District.

Officer Honebein began her career with the Union City Police Department in 1974 when she was assigned to the patrol division. She was one of the first female patrol officers in South County. Joan, like every other officer, was responsible for handling a beat within Union City.

In 1977, Joan was selected to be the director of the Youth Services Bureau. She supervised two youth and family counselors at Y.S.B. and served as the Union City Police Department's Juvenile Officer until 1984.

In 1984, Officer Honebein returned to the patrol division to resume the duties of patrol officer and the responsibility of a beat. Joan remained a patrol officer until 1992 when she was selected to be the Court Liaison and Juvenile Detective. As a Court Liaison it was Joan's responsibility to take all pending court cases to the District Attorney's officer for review by the District Attorney. As the Juvenile Detective, she handled all juvenile cases referred to her by the patrol division. In 1997, Joan returned to the patrol division once again as a patrol officer responsible for a beat.

Joan has been a member of several Union City Police Officers Association Executive Boards, rising to the rank of Vice-President. She was also a member of the Union City Lions Club for many years and is a past President. She has volunteered for many of the projects sponsored by the Lions Club in Union City.

In 1998, Joan was voted Officer of the Year by the members of the Union City Police Officers Association in recognition of her willingness to go the extra mile when providing service to the citizens of the community. It was a fitting tribute to an excellent career.

On August 20, 1999 the Union City Police Officer's Association will honor Officer Honebein at a recognition dinner. I would like to join them in expressing my appreciation for her hard work and dedication. I wish her success in all her future endeavors.